Amendments to the Specification

On page 12, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 22 as follows:

Step 1-3: ~~Step 2:~~ a sequence of the retrieved identification information is built: 0.3

[0].3 [1].2.2. This sequence is the instance structuring key associated to the encoded

description element.

Please amend the Abstract as follows, where the double brackets indicate deletions:

The invention proposes an encoding and a decoding method to be used for transmitting

and storing description element(s) of an XML-like document which is an instance of an

XML-like schema. The methodology includes: [[

~~It consists in:~~

-]] using at least one table derived from said schema, said table containing

identification information for solely identifying each description element in a hierarchical

level, and structural information for retrieving any child description element from its

parent description element,[[

-]] scanning a hierarchical memory representation of the instance from parent

description elements to child description elements until reaching the description element

to be encoded, and retrieving the identification information of each scanned description

element, and [[

-]] encoding said description element to be encoded as a fragment comprising said

content and a sequence of the retrieved identification information.

Applications: ~~XML; XML-schema; MPEG-7~~

~~Fig. 1~~